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Message Text

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46
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 OMB-01 DPW-01 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /161 W
---------- 107316
R 151100Z MAR 74
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2715
INFO USDEL JEC PARIS
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: GVN PROTESTS POLISH AND HUNGARIAN ICCS DELEGATIONS'
REFUSAL TO PARTICIPATE IN INVESTIGATIONS

REF: A. SAIGON 3126

B. SAIGON 3401

1. HUNGARIAN AND POLISH REFUSAL TO PARTICIPATE HAS PREVENTED
OFFICIAL ICCS INVESTIGATIONS OF TWO RECENT AND PARTICULARLY
BLATANT COMMUNIST CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS AND HAS DRAWN OFFICIAL
PROTESTS FROM THE GVN. ON FEBRUARY 7, THE TWO DELEGATIONS DECLINED
TO VISIT BIEN HOA AIR BASE TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION OF
THE COMMUNIST FIRING AT A TPJMC CHINOOK ON ITS RETURN FLIGHT
AFTER DELIVERING COMMUNIST POWS FOR RELEASE AT LOC NINH (REF
A). THESE TWO DELEGATIONS ALSO REFUSED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES
FROM MY THO TO NEARBY CAI LAY (ABOUT FIFTEEN MILES) TO
CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION OF THE MARCH 9 MORTARING OF AN ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL (REF B). IN BOTH INSTANCES, THE COMMUNIST DELEGATIONS
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SOUGHT REFUGE IN THE ALLEGED REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFETY GUARANTEES

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AND LIAISON OFFICERS FROM BOTH SOUTH VIETNAMESE PARTIES
AS THE PREREQUISITES FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN ANY INVESTIGATION.
IN BOTH INSTANCES, THE INDONESIAN AND IRANIAN DELEGATIONS CONSIDERED PRESENCE OF GVN LIAISON OFFICERS SUFFICIENT TO
CONDUCT UNOFFICIAL "OBSERVATIONS" IN THESE INDISPUTABLE GVN-CONTROLLED AREAS.

2. ON MARCH 12, THE GVN, THROUGH ITS CHIEF OF DELEGATION TO THE
TWO PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION, FOLLOWED UP ITS PROTEST
NOTE ON THE CAI LAY ATROCITY WITH THREE NOTES DEPLORING ICCS
INABILITY TO CARRY OUT ITS INVESTIGATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE PARIS AGREEMENT. GENERAL HIEP CALLED IN
HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR LORINCZ-NAGY AND POLISH MINISTER
PRZYGODZKI TO EMPHASIZE GVN UNHAPPINESS, AND PRESENTED THEM
WITH IDENTICAL NOTES DEPLORING THEIR DELEGATIONS' PASSIVE
ATTITUDE AND EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT THEIR DELEGATIONS WOULD
"CORRECTLY REVISE" THEIR ATTITUDES AND POLICIES WHICH HAVE BEEN
"AT VARIANCE WITH THE SPIRIT AND WORDING OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT".
HIEP THEN CALLED ON INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR DHARSONO, ICCS
CHAIRMAN FOR MARCH, AND DELIVERED TO HIM A NOTE SPECIFICALLY
DRAWING ATTENTION TO THE HUNGARIAN AND POLISH DELEGATIONS'
"INERT AND IMPROPER ATTITUDE" AND "STRONGLY OBJECTING TO THE
PASSIVENESS" OF THOSE DELEGATIONS.

3. IN HIS REMARKS TO LORINCZ-NAGY AND PRZYGODZKI, HIEP MADE
THE POINT THAT SPECIFIC SECURITY GUARANTEES SHOULD NOT BE
NECESSARY FOR EACH INVESTIGATION AS BOTH SOUTH VIETNAMESE
PARTIES' SIGNATURE ON THE PARIS AGREEMENT HAD COMMITTED THEM
TO COOPERATE WITH THE ICCS AND FACILITATE ITS OPERATIONS.
HE ADMONISHED THE TWO DELEGATION CHIEFS TO ADOPT A MORE POSITIVE
APPROACH. INSTEAD OF ASSUMING IN ADVANCE THAT THEIR PERSONNEL
WOULD MEET WITH DANGER AND OBSTRUCTIONISM, THEIR DELEGATIONS
SHOULD GO AHEAD AND MAKE AN ATTEMPT TO CARRY OUT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THEY ENCOUNTER PROBLEMS.
HE REMINDED THEM THAT THE GVN HAD NEVER REFUSED THE ICCS
THE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT TO FUNCTION IN ITS TERRITORY. ACCORDING
TO HIEP, LORINCZ-NAGY AND PRZYGODZKI DID NOT REPLY DIRECTLY
TO ANY OF HIS POINTS, BUT HAD THE TEMERITY TO CITE REPEATEDLY
THE ICCS REQUIREMENT FOR UNANIMITY AS PREVENTING POSITIVE ICCS
ACTION. HIEP'S QUESTION AS TO WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LACK
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OF UNANIMITY MERELY ELICITED THE ASSERTION THAT THE
POLISH AND HUNGARIAN DELEGATIONS CORRECTLY INTERPRETED AND
APPLIED THE PROVISIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

4. IN A NOTE DATED MARCH 15, AMBASSADOR LORINCZ-NAGY REJECTED
THE GVN NOTE OF MARCH 12 --LABELING IT "A GRAVE INTERFERENCE
WITH THE WORK OF THE ICCS" --AND REITERATED THAT THE HUNGARIAN
DELEGATION "ALWAYS STRICTLY ADHERED TO THE LETTER AND SPIRIT

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OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT". PLEASE SEE SAIGON 3470 WHICH REPORTS
SUBSEQUENT SWITCH IN COMMUNIST POSITION.
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